

2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

LEAD DISTRICT: STEUBEN
COLLABORATING DISTRICT: LAGRANGE
TARGET WATERSHEDS: FAWN RIVER, PIGEON RIVER,
PIGEON CREEK
PROJECT NAME: CROSS COUNTY CONSERVATION
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2014
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,000



Purpose: A watershed approach to conservation

This project will promote and encourage the installation of best management practices (BMPs) within the Fawn, Pigeon River, and Pigeon Creek watersheds. The project will create a partnership between the LaGrange and Steuben County SWCDs, providing the opportunity to contact non-traditional customers within these watersheds promoting the installation of exclusion fencing, hay/pasture seeding, and cover crops along the rivers and tributaries draining to them. These practices require minimal technical design, while providing positive impacts on water quality by reducing sediment and nutrient pollution of the two major watersheds within both counties.

Predominate land use within the Fawn and Pigeon River Watersheds is agricultural production of corn and soybean row crops, as well as livestock operations. Requested funds will be utilized for cost-share assistance on exclusion fence, hay/pasture seeding, and cover crops, with an emphasis on non-traditional and under served customers, such as the Amish community.



YEAR ONE ACTIVITIES:

COVER CROPS: 594 ACRES
HAY PLANTING: 52 ACRES

TOTAL ACRES IMPACTED IN ALL PRACTICES: 850

LaGrange County SWCD has a proven record in successfully improving the grazing practices of the Amish community with past grants and programs.

